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August 28, 2023

PIOTR WIETRZAK, TREASURER
NATIONAL PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL PORK
PAC
P.O. BOX 10383
DES MOINES, IA 50306

Response Due Date 10/02/2023

**IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00201871** 

REFERENCE: AMENDED MID-YEAR REPORT (01/01/2023 - 06/30/2023), RECEIVED 07/27/2023

#### Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action. Additional information is needed for the following 4 item(s):

- 1. Your report(s) was not signed by the treasurer or designated agent listed on your Statement of Organization (FEC Form 1). Please amend your report(s) by providing the signature of an individual that is authorized to sign the report(s). If a new treasurer has been appointed, please file an amended Statement of Organization or a letter (if not an electronic filer) to reflect this change. (52 U.S.C. §30104(a)(1) and 11 CFR §104.14(a) and (d))
- 2. Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) of the Detailed Summary Page discloses an anonymous contribution(s) of \$9,706. Please be advised that an anonymous cash contribution is limited to \$50. Any amount in excess of \$50 may not be used for federal election purposes. (11 CFR §110.4(c)(3)) If this contribution(s) consisted of amounts <u>not</u> in excess of \$50, please disclose them on Line 11(a) (ii) of the Detailed Summary Page. Otherwise, please transfer-out the amount in excess of \$50 to an account not used to influence federal elections.
- **3.** Schedule B of your report discloses a total of \$10,904.30 in payments to your connected organization for "Reimburse for fundraiser event." Please be advised that 52 U.S.C. §30118 prohibits a corporation or labor organization from contributing funds for the purpose of influencing any federal election; however, a connected organization may pay for the solicitation and administrative costs of its separate segregated fund. Further, 11 CFR §114.2(f) prohibits corporations

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and labor organizations from facilitating the making of contributions to candidates or political committees, other than to the separate segregated funds of the corporations and labor organizations. Facilitation means using corporate or labor organization resources or facilities to engage in fundraising activities in connection with any federal election. The use of corporate or labor organization resources in connection with a fundraiser may be permissible for certain fundraising activities only if the corporation or labor organization receives advance payment for the fair market value of such services. (11 CFR §114.2(f)(2) (i)(A), (C) and (E))

Please amend your report to clarify whether the payment to your connected organization was intended to influence federal elections and provide the dates of the activity conducted by your connected organization. In addition, please clarify whether your committee made advance payment for these services to your connected organization. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this matter, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

**4.** Schedule B supporting Line 23 discloses one or more contributions to a candidate(s) for the 2022 General election; however, the funds were disbursed after the election date(s) (see attached). Please note that contributions may not be designated for an election which has already occurred unless the funds are to be used to reduce a candidate committee's debts incurred during that election campaign. (11 CFR §§110.1(b)(3) and 110.2(b)(3))

If any apparently impermissible contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If the contribution(s) in question should have been designated for debt retirement, you should amend your report to indicate "debt retirement," along with the year of election.

If you have made an impermissible contribution, you must request a refund or provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.2(b) within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1) and (3))

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly by providing the date and method of your remedy (refund or redesignation request) for each contribution. The committee should retain for its records copies of the refund and/or redesignation request(s) sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition,

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any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. (11 CFR §110.1(b))

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this impermissible activity, your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

- Your report discloses certain categories of financial activity that have been reflected on the wrong lines of the Detailed Summary Page. For your information and consideration when preparing future filings, other disbursements (including non-federal expenses) should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 29 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b) and FORM 3X Instructions)

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. For information about the report review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees. For more information about Requests for Additional Information (RFAI), why you received a letter, and how to respond, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/request-additional-information. Should you have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1232.

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Sincerely,

Melissa Cisewski

Campaign Finance Analyst

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# Apparent Impermissible, Excessive, and Prohibited Contributions NATIONAL PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL PORK PAC (C00201871)

## **Apparent Contributions Made After Election Date**

Recipient Name	Date	Amount	Election	Election
JD VANCE FOR SENATE INC.	3/16/23	\$4,000.00	G2022	11/8/22